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January 15, 2002

Attorney General John Ashcroft
US Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, DC 20530

Dear Mr. Ashcroft:

I am writing this letter to inform you that I believe that the settlement reached between Microsoft and the Department of Justice regarding the antitrust suit will have positive impact on the economy. The suit has been detrimental to the economy, driving costs of software up and driving the stock market down. To top it all off, taxpayers are footing the bill for all this. If this suit is to continue, it will continue to have an unfavorable effect on the economy.

The proposed settlement will be beneficial to both the IT industry and the consumers alike. Microsoft has agreed to the establishment of a three-person "Technical Committee" that will monitor its compliance to the settlement, and assist in dispute resolution. Microsoft has also agreed not to retaliate against any computer makers that may ship non-Microsoft software.

The settlement is fair and reasonable, and was arrived at after extensive negotiations with a court-appointed mediator present. It would be a shame to continue litigation and waste all the time and money spent on drawing up the settlement. I urge you to confirm the settlement and help the nation get on the road to recovery.

Sincerely,



Rich McAdams